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Adult Criminal Court Data Tables 1998/99



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Adult Criminal Court Data Tables

1998/99

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Symbols

The following symbols are used in the tables that follow:

- .. figures not available.
- ... figures not appropriate or not applicable.
- nil or zero.
- amount too small to be expressed.

Table of Contents

	Page
Survey Overview	4
1.0 Introduction	4
2.0 Case Characteristics component	4
2.1 National Data Requirements	4
2.2 Units of count	4
3.0 Coverage	5
4.0 Data limitations	5
5.0 Comparability of ACCS data across provinces and territories	6
6.0 Comparability of ACCS to data from other sectors of the justice system	6
6.1 Policing	6
6.2 Corrections	6
7.0 Data dissemination	6
 Part 1: National overview	 7
Table 1.1 Appearances, charges and cases, selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99	8
Table 1.2 Cases by sex of accused, selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99	9
Table 1.3 Cases by age of accused, selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99	10
Table 1.4 Charges by disposition, selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99	11
Table 1.5 Cases by disposition, selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99	12
Table 1.6 Cases by most serious sentence, selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99	13
Table 1.7 Cases by length of prison, selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99	14
Table 1.8 Cases by length of probation, selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99	15
Table 1.9 Cases by amount of fine, selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99	16
Table 1.10 Mean and median length of prison, selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99	17
Table 1.11 Mean and median length of probation, selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99	18
Table 1.12 Mean and median amount of fine, selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99	19
Table 1.13 Cases by number of appearances, selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99	20
Table 1.14 Case elapsed time from first to last appearance, selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99	21
Table 1.15 Mean and median elapsed time from first to last appearance, selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99	22
 Part 2: Jurisdictional overviews	 23
Table 2.1 Charges by disposition, selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99	24
Table 2.2 Cases by disposition, selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99	24
Table 2.3 Cases by type of sentence, selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99	25
Table 2.4 Mean and median length of prison, selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99	25
Table 2.5 Mean and median length of probation, selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99	26
Table 2.6 Mean and median amount of fine, selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99	26
Table 2.7 Total cases, median elapsed time by number of appearances, selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99	27
 Appendices	 28
Appendix 1 ACCS jurisdictional coverage (Case Characteristics component)	29
Appendix 2 Case Characteristics standard record layout	30
Appendix 3 List of standard ACCS shelf tables	31
Appendix 4 Offence category definitions	32
Appendix 5 Table notes	33
Appendix 6 Methodological notes	35

Survey overview

1.0 Introduction

The tables presented in this report are based on case characteristics data from the Adult Criminal Court Survey (ACCS). The objective of the ACCS is to develop and maintain a national adult criminal court database of statistical information on appearances, charges, and cases in adult criminal courts. The survey is intended to be a census of federal and provincial/territorial statute charges and municipal by-law infractions heard in adult criminal trial courts in Canada.

At the time of this report, adult criminal courts in seven provinces and two territories reported to the ACCS. Reporting jurisdictions include: Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Yukon, and the Northwest Territories. In addition, Alberta reports Superior Court (Court of Queen's Bench) data to the ACCS. These jurisdictions represent approximately 80% of the national adult criminal court caseload. The information presented in this report covers only these nine participating jurisdictions. The remaining jurisdictions (i.e., New Brunswick, Manitoba, and British Columbia) will be supplying data to the survey within the next few years.

The ACCS has two components: Caseload and Case Characteristics. The Caseload component collects aggregate data on initiated, completed and pending charges, appearances and cases for federal and provincial/territorial statutes and municipal by-law offences heard in provincial criminal courts. The Case Characteristics component collects micro data on completed charges, appearances, and cases for federal statute offences heard in provincial and superior criminal courts. This report presents data from the Case Characteristics component.

2.0 Case Characteristics component

2.1 National Data Requirements

The Case Characteristics component is a microdata survey of adult criminal court activities at the provincial and superior court level. The survey collects data on completed charges from which appearance, charge, and case units of count are derived from appearance data. The ACCS also includes young offenders raised to adult criminal court under provisions of the *Young Offenders Act* (YOA), as well as adults charged under Sections 26 or 50 of the YOA.

2.2 Units of count

The basic units of count derived by the Case Characteristics component of the Adult Criminal Court Survey are the appearance, charge and case.

2.2.1 Appearance

An appearance is defined as a court appearance by an accused. Each appearance in court is reported to the ACCS as a separate occurrence once a charge has been completed.

2.2.2 Charge

A charge is a formal accusation against an accused involving a federal statute offence. The Case Characteristics component includes data only for completed charges. A charge is considered to be complete (receives a "final disposition") under any of the following conditions:

- the accused has been acquitted, or found guilty and sentenced;
- the accused has been found unfit to stand trial;
- the charge has been stayed, withdrawn, dismissed, or discharged;
- the charge has been waived in or out of the province or territory; or
- the accused has been committed for trial in Superior Court (Section 96 court). This applies only to jurisdictions that do not provide the survey with superior court data. In jurisdictions that provide superior court data, elections to superior court, or to provincial/territorial court are not "final dispositions".

Charges are considered to be complete only if there is a formal court disposition (and sentence if applicable), and the accused has no further scheduled appearances in the same provincial/territorial or superior court on the charge. Hearings that take place after sentencing (e.g. extension to comply with the final disposition) are not included in the survey.

It is recognized, however, that some charges may have two dispositions. For example:

1. In jurisdictions that do not provide superior court data, an accused committed for trial in superior court following a preliminary hearing could re-elect back to provincial court. This would result in further provincial court appearances and result in a “second” disposition.
2. Stays of proceeding that are re-started within the same reference period will result in more provincial court appearances, and a second disposition.

For both of the above examples, and other similar situations, the charge is considered as having “two” dispositions. However, the complete charge consists of all appearances, from the first appearance up to the last disposition, and sentence for convicted charges. For those cases with a change in court level or a break in process as a result of a stay, the case identifiers have been carried from one court to another.

2.2.3 Case

A case is one or more charges against an accused person or corporation, where the charges receive a final disposition in the same court and level on the same date. Charges are linked to a case on the basis of the accused identifier (IDENT) and date of last court appearance (DCOURT).

3.0 Coverage

The tables presented in this report are based on Case Characteristics data from the Adult Criminal Court Survey (ACCS). These data on federal statute charges disposed of in 1998/99 are collected by the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics (CCJS) in collaboration with provincial and territorial government departments responsible for adult criminal courts.

At the time of this report, adult criminal courts in seven provinces and two territories reported to the ACCS (see **Appendix 1**). These include Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Yukon, and the Northwest Territories. These jurisdictions represent approximately 80% of the national adult criminal court caseload. The information presented in this report covers provincial/territorial criminal courts in these nine jurisdictions, and superior courts in Alberta.

Not all provincial/territorial court locations in the participating jurisdictions currently report to the survey. Data for Halifax City Court, where approximately 15% of Nova Scotia’s federal statute charges are heard, are not available. Quebec’s 140 municipal courts do not report to the survey. Approximately 20% of federal statute charges in Quebec are heard in municipal courts.

For the most part, the ACCS collects data related to adult criminal activities. However, information related to youths raised to adult criminal court under the *Young Offenders Act* are included.

The absence of national coverage for provincial/territorial courts and superior courts, and the unavailability of data from municipal and appeal courts, represent limitations of the survey. Implementation of the ACCS at the provincial/territorial and superior criminal court levels is a current project priority. The completion of national coverage of adult criminal courts is contingent on the extent of automation of information systems in the provincial/territorial and superior courts. Municipal and appeal courts may be added to the survey as operational systems become automated.

4.0 Data limitations

The absence of national coverage for provincial/territorial courts, combined with the unavailability of data from most superior courts, and some municipal courts, imposes limitations for some data applications. Therefore, ACCS data must be interpreted as indicators of case characteristics and caseload rather than as precise measures for the following reasons:

- The extent of under-reporting (the degree to which all appearances, charges and cases have been reported to the survey) is not fully known. Survey coverage and reporting are monitored and respondents inform the survey of suspected problems or anomalies wherever possible.
- The data presented in case related tables are reported by most serious disposition, offence, conviction and sentence. Presenting data in these categorizations results in an under-counting of less serious outcomes.

- Charges may be counted more than once in the following circumstances: a) a charge is stayed in one reference period and restarted in another; b) a charge is stayed and later restarted with different identifiers; c) a charge moves from one court location to another; or d) an accused elects to superior court and later returns to provincial criminal court with different case identifiers.
- Differences in jurisdictional policies, administration, definitions, and data collection and editing methods may result in differences in counts, between ACCS data and that of reporting jurisdictions.

5.0 Comparability of ACCS data across provinces and territories

Inter-provincial and territorial differences may be observed in the data included in this report. These differences may be the result of variations in court operations and recording procedures, the interpretation of statutes or legal concepts, sentencing practices and demographics. For this reason, caution should be exercised when comparing data across provinces and territories.

6.0 Comparability of ACCS data to data from other sectors of the justice system

6.1 Policing

CCJS conducts the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR). This survey collects data on the crimes reported to the police. Counts from the UCR for offences cleared by charge are not comparable to ACCS figures for charges disposed of. There are many reasons for this. In part, it is the result in differences in scoring rules between the two surveys. The UCR counts violent offences in terms of the number of victims in the incident; non-violent offences are counted in terms of the number of separate incidents. Furthermore, the UCR figures include offences involving youths, while the ACCS charge counts only include youth offences that have been transferred to adult criminal court.

Counts for adults accused reported by the UCR Survey differ from the ACCS counts of cases. Again, there are several reasons for the difference. ACCS counts for disposed of cases include Criminal Code traffic offences while the UCR counts do not. Charges laid by police may be screened out of the system before reaching court - charges can be withdrawn or alternative dispute resolution activities may be employed. Finally, the time lag between the charging of an accused and the disposition of a case in court will result in differences in counts for the same reference period.

6.2 Corrections

The number of cases sentenced to prison, as reported by the ACCS, will differ from the number of actual admissions to correctional facilities. CCJS conducts the Adult Correctional Services (ACS) Survey, which measures, among other things, the number of persons admitted to correctional facilities in Canada. Prison sentences and sentenced admissions to correctional facilities differ for the following reasons: (i) the number of sentenced admissions reported by the ACS includes persons sentenced to prison in Superior Court and fine default admissions. Only one jurisdiction, Alberta, reports Superior Court data to the ACCS. The ACCS collects data on fines, but does not collect data on persons sentenced to prison when the fine is not paid; and (ii) any accused sentenced to prison-time-served would be counted differently in each survey. The ACCS does not collect data on the duration of the time already served (i.e., the accused was in custody during the trial), and the correctional data would identify these sentences as a remand prior to the completion of the trial.

7.0 Data dissemination

Information from the ACCS is released annually through this report, through a *Juristat* report and through customized tables which are available (for a fee) upon request. The data are subject to revisions as the justice environment changes and data elements are refined. A list of the ACCS data elements is presented in **Appendix 2**.

The number of tables included in this publication is limited to tables of most interest to information users. There are however, a number of additional tables available (at a cost) upon request. A complete list of supplementary tables is presented in **Appendix 3**.

Part 1 – National Overview

Table 1.1

Appearances, charges and cases

Selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99

Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Yukon and the Northwest Territories

Offence group	Total counts					
	Appearances #	Charges #	Case appearances #	Cases #	Single-charge cases #	Multiple-charge cases #
Total offences	4,552,804	840,539	1,849,163	394,884	209,481	185,403
Criminal Code total	3,982,628	745,145	1,658,126	350,850	179,266	171,584
Crimes against the person	779,009	126,461	457,071	82,097	41,769	40,328
Homicide and related	6,195	582	5,074	480	302	178
Attempted murder	6,287	674	3,518	362	96	266
Robbery	79,264	8,852	36,983	4,691	1,384	3,307
Kidnapping	29,143	3,130	2,101	297	93	204
Sexual assault	77,895	10,178	44,887	6,140	2,613	3,527
Sexual abuse	49,503	6,323	9,577	1,360	526	834
Major assault	210,696	33,177	130,498	21,761	8,773	12,988
Abduction	1,406	247	817	147	93	54
Common assault	318,620	63,298	223,616	46,859	27,889	18,970
Crimes against property	1,310,779	230,731	484,206	101,168	50,091	51,077
Break and enter	189,834	32,115	79,818	14,268	5,089	9,179
Arson	7,862	1,094	4,220	619	248	371
Fraud	403,975	62,767	113,728	20,835	8,290	12,545
Possess stolen property	281,672	45,379	74,825	13,610	6,988	6,622
Theft	300,228	64,417	161,518	40,291	22,946	17,345
Property damage/mischief	127,208	24,959	50,097	11,545	6,530	5,015
Other Criminal Code	1,379,677	266,711	485,316	110,940	70,649	40,291
Weapons	152,640	20,895	41,698	7,501	2,947	4,554
Administration of justice	396,850	91,955	168,307	40,777	26,765	14,012
Public order offences	77,850	17,001	36,763	8,977	4,631	4,346
Morals-sexual	53,477	9,410	25,654	5,830	4,449	1,381
Morals-gaming	22,001	2,302	5,543	777	377	400
Unspecified Criminal Code	676,859	125,148	207,351	47,078	31,480	15,598
Traffic-related offences	513,163	121,242	231,533	56,645	16,757	39,888
Criminal Code traffic	92,741	17,392	42,518	8,488	4,839	3,649
Impaired driving	420,422	103,850	189,015	48,157	11,918	36,239
Federal statute offences	570,176	95,394	191,037	44,034	30,215	13,819
Drug-related offences	277,012	40,056	113,860	20,166	13,296	6,870
Trafficking	170,978	19,588	61,695	7,895	3,252	4,643
Possession	106,034	20,468	52,165	12,271	10,044	2,227
Other federal statutes	293,164	55,338	77,177	23,868	16,919	6,949

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Adult Criminal Court Survey.

See Appendix 4 for offence category definitions, Appendix 5 for table notes, and Appendix 6 for methodological notes.

Table 1.2

Cases by sex of accused

Selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99

Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Yukon and the Northwest Territories

Offence Group	Total cases heard	Sex of accused							
		Males		Females		Company		Unknown	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total offences	394,884	321,643	81.5	59,002	14.9	925	0.2	13,314	3.4
Criminal Code total	350,850	286,983	81.8	53,951	15.4	173	--	9,743	2.8
Crimes against the person	82,097	70,096	85.4	10,394	12.7	-	-	1,607	2.0
Homicide and related	480	409	85.2	64	13.3	-	-	7	1.5
Attempted murder	362	315	87.0	34	9.4	-	-	13	3.6
Robbery	4,691	4,213	89.8	350	7.5	-	-	128	2.7
Kidnapping	297	266	89.6	21	7.1	-	-	10	3.4
Sexual assault	6,140	5,962	97.1	73	1.2	-	-	105	1.7
Sexual abuse	1,360	1,261	92.7	22	1.6	-	-	77	5.7
Major assault	21,761	18,224	83.7	3,078	14.1	-	-	459	2.1
Abduction	147	89	60.5	56	38.1	-	-	2	1.4
Common assault	46,859	39,357	84.0	6,696	14.3	-	-	806	1.7
Crimes against property	101,168	77,466	76.6	20,726	20.5	39	--	2,937	2.9
Break and enter	14,268	12,874	90.2	786	5.5	-	-	608	4.3
Arson	619	487	78.7	88	14.2	-	-	44	7.1
Fraud	20,835	14,358	68.9	5,749	27.6	27	0.1	701	3.4
Possess stolen property	13,610	11,839	87.0	1,534	11.3	4	--	233	1.7
Theft	40,291	27,977	69.4	11,181	27.8	7	--	1,126	2.8
Property damage/mischief	11,545	9,931	86.0	1,388	12.0	1	--	225	1.9
Other Criminal Code	110,940	90,994	82.0	17,062	15.4	134	0.1	2,750	2.5
Weapons	7,501	6,686	89.1	602	8.0	1	--	212	2.8
Administration of justice	40,777	34,647	85.0	5,544	13.6	3	--	583	1.4
Public order offences	8,977	7,483	83.4	1,321	14.7	1	--	172	1.9
Morals-sexual	5,830	3,285	56.3	2,313	39.7	6	0.1	226	3.9
Morals-gaming	777	508	65.4	186	23.9	61	7.9	22	2.8
Unspecified Criminal Code	47,078	38,385	81.5	7,096	15.1	62	0.1	1,535	3.3
Traffic-related offences	56,645	48,427	85.5	5,769	10.2	-	-	2,449	4.3
Criminal Code traffic	8,488	7,632	89.9	665	7.8	-	-	191	2.3
Impaired driving	48,157	40,795	84.7	5,104	10.6	-	-	2,258	4.7
Federal statute offences	44,034	34,660	78.7	5,051	11.5	752	1.7	3,571	8.1
Drug-related offences	20,166	17,196	85.3	2,779	13.8	2	--	189	0.9
Trafficking	7,895	6,382	80.8	1,405	17.8	1	--	107	1.4
Possession	12,271	10,814	88.1	1,374	11.2	1	--	82	0.7
Other federal statutes	23,868	17,464	73.2	2,272	9.5	750	3.1	3,382	14.2

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Adult Criminal Court Survey.

See Appendix 4 for offence category definitions, Appendix 5 for table notes, and Appendix 6 for methodological notes.

Table 1.3

Cases by age of accused

Selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99

Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Yukon and the Northwest Territories

Offence Group	Total cases heard	Age group											
		18 to 24		25 to 34		35 to 44		45 to 54		55 plus		Unknown	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total offences	394,884	113,485	28.7	121,087	30.7	92,197	23.3	36,358	9.2	16,598	4.2	15,159	3.8
Criminal Code total	350,850	98,969	28.2	108,438	30.9	83,193	23.7	32,683	9.3	14,967	4.3	12,600	3.6
Crimes against the person	82,097	20,166	24.6	26,926	32.8	20,840	25.4	7,649	9.3	3,448	4.2	3,068	3.7
Homicide and related	480	137	28.5	180	37.5	84	17.5	40	8.3	20	4.2	19	4.0
Attempted murder	362	111	30.7	122	33.7	75	20.7	27	7.5	15	4.1	12	3.3
Robbery	4,691	2,101	44.8	1,509	32.2	781	16.6	153	3.3	26	0.6	121	2.6
Kidnapping	297	87	29.3	93	31.3	67	22.6	23	7.7	13	4.4	14	4.7
Sexual assault	6,140	1,136	18.5	1,803	29.4	1,560	25.4	815	13.3	579	9.4	247	4.0
Sexual abuse	1,360	190	14.0	371	27.3	368	27.1	180	13.2	157	11.5	94	6.9
Major assault	21,761	6,514	29.9	7,144	32.8	5,086	23.4	1,723	7.9	745	3.4	549	2.5
Abduction	147	16	10.9	62	42.2	36	24.5	16	10.9	3	2.0	14	9.5
Common assault	46,859	9,874	21.1	15,642	33.4	12,783	27.3	4,672	10.0	1,890	4.0	1,998	4.3
Crimes against property	101,168	36,867	36.4	30,140	29.8	20,724	20.5	7,495	7.4	3,307	3.3	2,635	2.6
Break and enter	14,268	7,481	52.4	3,995	28.0	1,945	13.6	443	3.1	74	0.5	330	2.3
Arson	619	223	36.0	157	25.4	122	19.7	70	11.3	31	5.0	16	2.6
Fraud	20,835	5,583	26.8	7,243	34.8	4,805	23.1	1,766	8.5	568	2.7	870	4.2
Possess stolen property	13,610	6,105	44.9	4,000	29.4	2,269	16.7	671	4.9	202	1.5	363	2.7
Theft	40,291	12,811	31.8	11,197	27.8	9,397	23.3	3,872	9.6	2,195	5.4	819	2.0
Property damage/mischief	11,545	4,664	40.4	3,548	30.7	2,186	18.9	673	5.8	237	2.1	237	2.1
Other Criminal Code	110,940	31,356	28.3	34,718	31.3	25,327	22.8	9,161	8.3	3,832	3.5	6,546	5.9
Weapons	7,501	2,291	30.5	2,033	27.1	1,544	20.6	802	10.7	501	6.7	330	4.4
Administration of justice	40,777	13,125	32.2	13,638	33.4	9,234	22.6	2,881	7.1	953	2.3	946	2.3
Public order offences	8,977	3,360	37.4	3,072	34.2	1,716	19.1	517	5.8	185	2.1	127	1.4
Morals-sexual	5,830	1,027	17.6	2,064	35.4	1,552	26.6	590	10.1	350	6.0	247	4.2
Morals-gaming	777	53	6.8	161	20.7	155	19.9	150	19.3	87	11.2	171	22.0
Unspecified Criminal Code	47,078	11,500	24.4	13,750	29.2	11,126	23.6	4,221	9.0	1,756	3.7	4,725	10.0
Traffic-related offences	56,645	10,580	18.7	16,654	29.4	16,302	28.8	8,378	14.8	4,380	7.7	351	0.6
Criminal Code traffic	8,488	1,755	20.7	2,880	33.9	2,299	27.1	1,008	11.9	450	5.3	96	1.1
Impaired driving	48,157	8,825	18.3	13,774	28.6	14,003	29.1	7,370	15.3	3,930	8.2	255	0.5
Federal statute offences	44,034	14,516	33.0	12,649	28.7	9,004	20.4	3,675	8.3	1,631	3.7	2,559	5.8
Drug-related offences	20,166	7,415	36.8	6,531	32.4	4,248	21.1	1,054	5.2	224	1.1	694	3.4
Trafficking	7,895	2,223	28.2	2,754	34.9	1,893	24.0	535	6.8	138	1.7	352	4.5
Possession	12,271	5,192	42.3	3,777	30.8	2,355	19.2	519	4.2	86	0.7	342	2.8
Other federal statutes	23,868	7,101	29.8	6,118	25.6	4,756	19.9	2,621	11.0	1,407	5.9	1,865	7.8

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Adult Criminal Court Survey.

See Appendix 4 for offence category definitions, Appendix 5 for table notes, and Appendix 6 for methodological notes.

Table 1.4

Charges by disposition

Selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99

Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Yukon and the Northwest Territories

Offence group	Total charges heard	Disposition									
		Guilty		Superior Court		Other		Stay/withdrawn		Acquitted	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total offences	840,539	392,393	46.7	16,915	2.0	31,123	3.7	372,862	44.4	27,246	3.2
Criminal Code total	745,145	341,550	45.8	13,994	1.9	27,320	3.7	337,880	45.3	24,401	3.3
Crimes against the person	126,461	52,170	41.3	5,245	4.1	3,646	2.9	58,402	46.2	6,998	5.5
Homicide and related	582	166	28.5	174	29.9	28	4.8	202	34.7	12	2.1
Attempted murder	674	87	12.9	107	15.9	48	7.1	379	56.2	53	7.9
Robbery	8,852	4,380	49.5	620	7.0	278	3.1	3,391	38.3	183	2.1
Kidnapping	3,130	567	18.1	274	8.8	101	3.2	1,950	62.3	238	7.6
Sexual assault	10,178	2,686	26.4	1,638	16.1	211	2.1	4,972	48.9	671	6.6
Sexual abuse	6,323	1,606	25.4	1,010	16.0	140	2.2	3,168	50.1	399	6.3
Major assault	33,177	13,198	39.8	998	3.0	995	3.0	15,925	48.0	2,061	6.2
Abduction	247	53	21.5	16	6.5	7	2.8	159	64.4	12	4.9
Common assault	63,298	29,427	46.5	408	0.6	1,838	2.9	28,256	44.6	3,369	5.3
Crimes against property	230,731	112,329	48.7	4,298	1.9	8,159	3.5	102,311	44.3	3,634	1.6
Break and enter	32,115	19,176	59.7	668	2.1	1,264	3.9	10,457	32.6	550	1.7
Arson	1,094	467	42.7	94	8.6	80	7.3	404	36.9	49	4.5
Fraud	62,767	29,091	46.3	1,109	1.8	3,076	4.9	28,667	45.7	824	1.3
Possess stolen property	45,379	14,429	31.8	1,334	2.9	1,266	2.8	27,697	61.0	653	1.4
Theft	64,417	36,478	56.6	990	1.5	1,872	2.9	24,190	37.6	887	1.4
Property damage/mischief	24,959	12,688	50.8	103	0.4	601	2.4	10,896	43.7	671	2.7
Other Criminal Code	266,711	120,155	45.1	3,934	1.5	12,370	4.6	121,325	45.5	8,927	3.3
Weapons	20,895	6,494	31.1	1,304	6.2	653	3.1	11,864	56.8	580	2.8
Administration of justice	91,955	47,300	51.4	344	0.4	2,672	2.9	40,495	44.0	1,144	1.2
Public order offences	17,001	10,116	59.5	61	0.4	422	2.5	6,066	35.7	336	2.0
Morals-sexual	9,410	3,689	39.2	280	3.0	166	1.8	5,176	55.0	99	1.1
Morals-gaming	2,302	366	15.9	1	--	8	0.3	1,268	55.1	659	28.6
Unspecified Criminal Code	125,148	52,190	41.7	1,944	1.6	8,449	6.8	56,456	45.1	6,109	4.9
Traffic-related offences	121,242	56,896	46.9	517	0.4	3,145	2.6	55,842	46.1	4,842	4.0
Criminal Code traffic	17,392	9,969	57.3	248	1.4	387	2.2	6,469	37.2	319	1.8
Impaired driving	103,850	46,927	45.2	269	0.3	2,758	2.7	49,373	47.5	4,523	4.4
Federal statute offences	95,394	50,843	53.3	2,921	3.1	3,803	4.0	34,982	36.7	2,845	3.0
Drug-related offences	40,056	18,313	45.7	2,329	5.8	752	1.9	18,314	45.7	348	0.9
Trafficking	19,588	6,833	34.9	1,987	10.1	371	1.9	10,147	51.8	250	1.3
Possession	20,468	11,480	56.1	342	1.7	381	1.9	8,167	39.9	98	0.5
Other federal statutes	55,338	32,530	58.8	592	1.1	3,051	5.5	16,668	30.1	2,497	4.5

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Adult Criminal Court Survey.

See Appendix 4 for offence category definitions, Appendix 5 for table notes, and Appendix 6 for methodological notes.

Table 1.5

Cases by disposition

Selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99

Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Yukon and the Northwest Territories

Offence group	Total charges heard	Disposition									
		Guilty		Superior Court		Other		Stay/withdrawn		Acquitted	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total offences	394,884	240,653	60.9	5,380	1.4	13,367	3.4	125,699	31.8	9,785	2.5
Criminal Code total	350,850	209,923	59.8	4,421	1.3	12,536	3.6	114,956	32.8	9,014	2.6
Crimes against the person	82,097	42,654	52.0	2,341	2.9	2,285	2.8	31,331	38.2	3,486	4.2
Homicide and related	480	148	30.8	156	32.5	23	4.8	145	30.2	8	1.7
Attempted murder	362	75	20.7	83	22.9	29	8.0	161	44.5	14	3.9
Robbery	4,691	2,634	56.2	381	8.1	142	3.0	1,465	31.2	69	1.5
Kidnapping	297	99	33.3	22	7.4	11	3.7	156	52.5	9	3.0
Sexual assault	6,140	2,128	34.7	974	15.9	114	1.9	2,506	40.8	418	6.8
Sexual abuse	1,360	760	55.9	102	7.5	30	2.2	426	31.3	42	3.1
Major assault	21,761	11,641	53.5	506	2.3	555	2.6	8,008	36.8	1,051	4.8
Abduction	147	43	29.3	7	4.8	4	2.7	84	57.1	9	6.1
Common assault	46,859	25,126	53.6	110	0.2	1,377	2.9	18,380	39.2	1,866	4.0
Crimes against property	101,168	63,580	62.8	1,079	1.1	2,460	2.4	32,748	32.4	1,301	1.3
Break and enter	14,268	9,880	69.2	288	2.0	507	3.6	3,377	23.7	216	1.5
Arson	619	356	57.5	39	6.3	37	6.0	162	26.2	25	4.0
Fraud	20,835	12,704	61.0	433	2.1	668	3.2	6,792	32.6	238	1.1
Possess stolen property	13,610	8,266	60.7	157	1.2	241	1.8	4,759	35.0	187	1.4
Theft	40,291	24,957	61.9	144	0.4	832	2.1	13,905	34.5	453	1.1
Property damage/mischief	11,545	7,417	64.2	18	0.2	175	1.5	3,753	32.5	182	1.6
Other Criminal Code	110,940	60,453	54.5	863	0.8	7,022	6.3	40,460	36.5	2,142	1.9
Weapons	7,501	4,260	56.8	208	2.8	300	4.0	2,607	34.8	126	1.7
Administration of justice	40,777	22,711	55.7	112	0.3	829	2.0	16,741	41.1	384	0.9
Public order offences	8,977	6,584	73.3	29	0.3	152	1.7	2,110	23.5	102	1.1
Morals-sexual	5,830	3,175	54.5	29	0.5	96	1.6	2,481	42.6	49	0.8
Morals-gaming	777	287	36.9	-	-	3	0.4	457	58.8	30	3.9
Unspecified Criminal Code	47,078	23,436	49.8	485	1.0	5,642	12.0	16,064	34.1	1,451	3.1
Traffic-related offences	56,645	43,236	76.3	138	0.2	769	1.4	10,417	18.4	2,085	3.7
Criminal Code traffic	8,488	6,023	71.0	84	1.0	148	1.7	2,103	24.8	130	1.5
Impaired driving	48,157	37,213	77.3	54	0.1	621	1.3	8,314	17.3	1,955	4.1
Federal statute offences	44,034	30,730	69.8	959	2.2	831	1.9	10,743	24.4	771	1.8
Drug-related offences	20,166	12,004	59.5	840	4.2	324	1.6	6,892	34.2	106	0.5
Trafficking	7,895	3,940	49.9	807	10.2	123	1.6	2,967	37.6	58	0.7
Possession	12,271	8,064	65.7	33	0.3	201	1.6	3,925	32.0	48	0.4
Other federal statutes	23,868	18,726	78.5	119	0.5	507	2.1	3,851	16.1	665	2.8

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Adult Criminal Court Survey.

See Appendix 4 for offence category definitions, Appendix 5 for table notes, and Appendix 6 for methodological notes.

Table 1.6
Cases by most serious sentence
Selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99

Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Yukon and the Northwest Territories

Offence Group	Total cases heard	Most serious sentence											
		Prison		Probation		Fine		Restitution		Other		Sentence unknown	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total offences	240,653	84,011	34.9	65,749	27.3	78,552	32.6	264	0.1	10,315	4.3	1,762	0.7
Criminal Code total	209,923	77,918	37.1	61,006	29.1	60,428	28.8	258	0.1	8,601	4.1	1,712	0.8
Crimes against the person	42,654	16,787	39.4	20,087	47.1	3,240	7.6	11	--	2,144	5.0	385	0.9
Homicide and related	148	122	82.4	8	5.4	3	2.0	-	-	7	4.7	8	5.4
Attempted murder	75	55	73.3	4	5.3	2	2.7	-	-	3	4.0	11	14.7
Robbery	2,634	2,042	77.5	423	16.1	20	0.8	-	-	131	5.0	18	0.7
Kidnapping	99	66	66.7	29	29.3	-	-	-	-	4	4.0	-	-
Sexual assault	2,128	1,223	57.5	614	28.9	41	1.9	-	-	215	10.1	35	1.6
Sexual abuse	760	454	59.7	204	26.8	8	1.1	-	-	93	12.2	1	0.1
Major assault	11,641	5,628	48.3	4,428	38.0	857	7.4	3	--	575	4.9	150	1.3
Abduction	43	16	37.2	20	46.5	1	2.3	-	-	6	14.0	-	-
Common assault	25,126	7,181	28.6	14,357	57.1	2,308	9.2	8	--	1,110	4.4	162	0.6
Crimes against property	63,580	26,098	41.0	22,722	35.7	10,693	16.8	215	0.3	3,619	5.7	233	0.4
Break and enter	9,880	6,175	62.5	3,060	31.0	177	1.8	36	0.4	341	3.5	91	0.9
Arson	356	187	52.5	130	36.5	5	1.4	-	-	30	8.4	4	1.1
Fraud	12,704	4,468	35.2	5,342	42.0	1,544	12.2	63	0.5	1,252	9.9	35	0.3
Possess stolen property	8,266	3,918	47.4	2,396	29.0	1,631	19.7	12	0.1	288	3.5	21	0.3
Theft	24,957	9,508	38.1	8,124	32.6	5,837	23.4	39	0.2	1,390	5.6	59	0.2
Property damage/mischief	7,417	1,842	24.8	3,670	49.5	1,499	20.2	65	0.9	318	4.3	23	0.3
Other Criminal Code	60,453	26,381	43.6	15,007	24.8	15,443	25.5	29	--	2,531	4.2	1,062	1.8
Weapons	4,260	1,392	32.7	1,444	33.9	1,138	26.7	2	--	272	6.4	12	0.3
Administration of justice	22,711	12,979	57.1	2,704	11.9	6,333	27.9	1	--	504	2.2	190	0.8
Public order offences	6,584	2,044	31.0	1,592	24.2	2,616	39.7	3	--	295	4.5	34	0.5
Morals-sexual	3,175	921	29.0	1,132	35.7	859	27.1	1	--	255	8.0	7	0.2
Morals-gaming	287	4	1.4	104	36.2	105	36.6	-	-	74	25.8	-	-
Unspecified Criminal Code	23,436	9,041	38.6	8,031	34.3	4,392	18.7	22	0.1	1,131	4.8	819	3.5
Traffic-related offences	43,236	8,652	20.0	3,190	7.4	31,052	71.8	3	--	307	0.7	32	0.1
Criminal Code traffic	6,023	3,022	50.2	507	8.4	2,313	38.4	3	--	165	2.7	13	0.2
Impaired driving	37,213	5,630	15.1	2,683	7.2	28,739	77.2	-	-	142	0.4	19	0.1
Federal statute offences	30,730	6,093	19.8	4,743	15.4	18,124	59.0	6	--	1,714	5.6	50	0.2
Drug-related offences	12,004	3,455	28.8	2,162	18.0	5,273	43.9	2	--	1,102	9.2	10	0.1
Trafficking	3,940	2,293	58.2	532	13.5	717	18.2	2	0.1	392	9.9	4	0.1
Possession	8,064	1,162	14.4	1,630	20.2	4,556	56.5	-	-	710	8.8	6	0.1
Other federal statutes	18,726	2,638	14.1	2,581	13.8	12,851	68.6	4	--	612	3.3	40	0.2

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Adult Criminal Court Survey.
 See Appendix 4 for offence category definitions, Appendix 5 for table notes, and Appendix 6 for methodological notes.

Table 1.7

Cases by length of prison

Selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99

Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Yukon and the Northwest Territories

Offence group	Total convicted cases	Length of prison sentence													
		1 month or less		>1 to 6 months		>6 to 12 months		>1 to <2 years		2 years or more		Unknown		No prison	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total offences	240,653	39,415	16.4	29,569	12.3	5,272	2.2	2,788	1.2	3,162	1.3	3,805	1.6	156,642	65.1
Criminal Code total	209,923	37,247	17.7	27,508	13.1	4,665	2.2	2,412	1.1	2,691	1.3	3,395	1.6	132,005	62.9
Crimes against the person	42,654	5,253	12.3	6,931	16.2	1,496	3.5	999	2.3	1,480	3.5	628	1.5	25,867	60.6
Homicide and related	148	5	3.4	5	3.4	5	3.4	8	5.4	97	65.5	2	1.4	26	17.6
Attempted murder	75	3	4.0	4	5.3	4	5.3	10	13.3	34	45.3	-	-	20	26.7
Robbery	2,634	141	5.4	343	13.0	348	13.2	353	13.4	805	30.6	52	2.0	592	22.5
Kidnapping	99	4	4.0	24	24.2	9	9.1	9	9.1	15	15.2	5	5.1	33	33.3
Sexual assault	2,128	100	4.7	376	17.7	216	10.2	229	10.8	264	12.4	38	1.8	905	42.5
Sexual abuse	760	39	5.1	182	23.9	89	11.7	74	9.7	61	8.0	9	1.2	306	40.3
Major assault	11,641	1,671	14.4	2,709	23.3	618	5.3	257	2.2	186	1.6	187	1.6	6,013	51.7
Abduction	43	8	18.6	4	9.3	1	2.3	-	-	2	4.7	1	2.3	27	62.8
Common assault	25,126	3,282	13.1	3,284	13.1	206	0.8	59	0.2	16	0.1	334	1.3	17,945	71.4
Crimes against property	63,580	9,735	15.3	10,922	17.2	2,425	3.8	1,080	1.7	895	1.4	1,041	1.6	37,482	59.0
Break and enter	9,880	857	8.7	2,697	27.3	1,219	12.3	656	6.6	588	6.0	158	1.6	3,705	37.5
Arson	356	19	5.3	54	15.2	34	9.6	43	12.1	28	7.9	9	2.5	169	47.5
Fraud	12,704	1,585	12.5	2,062	16.2	366	2.9	146	1.1	139	1.1	170	1.3	8,236	64.8
Possess stolen property	8,266	1,448	17.5	1,887	22.8	287	3.5	75	0.9	53	0.6	168	2.0	4,348	52.6
Theft	24,957	4,686	18.8	3,663	14.7	478	1.9	153	0.6	84	0.3	444	1.8	15,449	61.9
Property damage/mischief	7,417	1,140	15.4	559	7.5	41	0.6	7	0.1	3	--	92	1.2	5,575	75.2
Other Criminal Code	60,453	17,497	28.9	6,271	10.4	500	0.8	234	0.4	260	0.4	1,619	2.7	34,072	56.4
Weapons	4,260	516	12.1	574	13.5	143	3.4	55	1.3	55	1.3	49	1.2	2,868	67.3
Administration of justice	22,711	9,641	42.5	2,349	10.3	84	0.4	22	0.1	14	0.1	869	3.8	9,732	42.9
Public order offences	6,584	1,388	21.1	525	8.0	12	0.2	4	0.1	1	--	114	1.7	4,540	69.0
Morals-sexual	3,175	644	20.3	167	5.3	12	0.4	10	0.3	11	0.3	77	2.4	2,254	71.0
Morals-gaming	287	2	0.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	0.7	283	98.6
Unspecified Criminal Code	23,436	5,306	22.6	2,656	11.3	249	1.1	143	0.6	179	0.8	508	2.2	14,395	61.4
Traffic-related offences	43,236	4,762	11.0	3,384	7.8	244	0.6	99	0.2	56	0.1	107	0.2	34,584	80.0
Criminal Code traffic	6,023	1,511	25.1	1,283	21.3	119	2.0	56	0.9	23	0.4	30	0.5	3,001	49.8
Impaired driving	37,213	3,251	8.7	2,101	5.6	125	0.3	43	0.1	33	0.1	77	0.2	31,583	84.9
Federal statute offences	30,730	2,168	7.1	2,061	6.7	607	2.0	376	1.2	471	1.5	410	1.3	24,637	80.2
Drug-related offences	12,004	1,223	10.2	1,173	9.8	281	2.3	194	1.6	341	2.8	243	2.0	8,549	71.2
Trafficking	3,940	451	11.4	962	24.4	270	6.9	189	4.8	337	8.6	84	2.1	1,647	41.8
Possession	8,064	772	9.6	211	2.6	11	0.1	5	0.1	4	--	159	2.0	6,902	85.6
Other federal statutes	18,726	945	5.0	888	4.7	326	1.7	182	1.0	130	0.7	167	0.9	16,088	85.9

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Adult Criminal Court Survey.

See Appendix 4 for offence category definitions, Appendix 5 for table notes, and Appendix 6 for methodological notes.

Table 1.8
Cases by length of probation
Selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99
 Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Yukon and the Northwest Territories

Offence group	Total convicted cases	Length of probation order													
		3 months or less		>3 to 6 months		>6 to 12 months		>12 to 24 years		>24 months		Unknown		No probation	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total offences	240,653	5,155	2.1	10,270	4.3	43,868	18.2	34,289	14.2	7,238	3.0	77	--	139,756	58.1
Criminal Code total	209,923	4,698	2.2	9,254	4.4	41,038	19.5	31,910	15.2	6,811	3.2	72	--	116,140	55.3
Crimes against the person	42,654	593	1.4	2,271	5.3	13,875	32.5	11,455	26.9	2,568	6.0	24	0.1	11,868	27.8
Homicide and related	148	1	0.7	-	-	4	2.7	7	4.7	12	8.1	-	-	124	83.8
Attempted murder	75	-	-	-	-	1	1.3	8	10.7	12	16.0	-	-	54	72.0
Robbery	2,634	10	0.4	18	0.7	247	9.4	646	24.5	331	12.6	1	--	1,381	52.4
Kidnapping	99	-	-	2	2.0	17	17.2	32	32.3	23	23.2	-	-	25	25.3
Sexual assault	2,128	17	0.8	45	2.1	398	18.7	661	31.1	377	17.7	-	-	630	29.6
Sexual abuse	760	6	0.8	13	1.7	87	11.4	292	38.4	214	28.2	-	-	148	19.5
Major assault	11,641	188	1.6	383	3.3	3,236	27.8	3,541	30.4	725	6.2	7	0.1	3,561	30.6
Abduction	43	-	-	1	2.3	10	23.3	14	32.6	10	23.3	-	-	8	18.6
Common assault	25,126	371	1.5	1,809	7.2	9,875	39.3	6,254	24.9	864	3.4	16	0.1	5,937	23.6
Crimes against property	63,580	1,198	1.9	3,134	4.9	14,868	23.4	11,897	18.7	2,446	3.8	28	--	30,009	47.2
Break and enter	9,880	89	0.9	214	2.2	2,084	21.1	3,050	30.9	670	6.8	8	0.1	3,765	38.1
Arson	356	2	0.6	8	2.2	54	15.2	120	33.7	74	20.8	-	-	98	27.5
Fraud	12,704	220	1.7	592	4.7	3,134	24.7	2,852	22.4	820	6.5	7	0.1	5,079	40.0
Possess stolen property	8,266	177	2.1	322	3.9	1,705	20.6	1,235	14.9	163	2.0	1	--	4,663	56.4
Theft	24,957	473	1.9	1,235	4.9	5,627	22.5	3,578	14.3	571	2.3	6	--	13,467	54.0
Property damage/mischief	7,417	237	3.2	763	10.3	2,264	30.5	1,062	14.3	148	2.0	6	0.1	2,937	39.6
Other Criminal Code	60,453	1,424	2.4	2,591	4.3	9,682	16.0	7,041	11.6	1,459	2.4	12	--	38,244	63.3
Weapons	4,260	75	1.8	158	3.7	833	19.6	805	18.9	178	4.2	1	--	2,210	51.9
Administration of justice	22,711	525	2.3	571	2.5	2,211	9.7	1,638	7.2	270	1.2	1	--	17,495	77.0
Public order offences	6,584	168	2.6	398	6.0	1,020	15.5	431	6.5	62	0.9	-	-	4,505	68.4
Morals-sexual	3,175	45	1.4	178	5.6	755	23.8	350	11.0	95	3.0	1	--	1,751	55.1
Morals-gaming	287	4	1.4	41	14.3	45	15.7	13	4.5	2	0.7	-	-	182	63.4
Unspecified Criminal Code	23,436	607	2.6	1,245	5.3	4,818	20.6	3,804	16.2	852	3.6	9	--	12,101	51.6
Traffic-related offences	43,236	1,483	3.4	1,258	2.9	2,613	6.0	1,517	3.5	338	0.8	8	--	36,019	83.3
Criminal Code traffic	6,023	470	7.8	201	3.3	523	8.7	394	6.5	120	2.0	2	--	4,313	71.6
Impaired driving	37,213	1,013	2.7	1,057	2.8	2,090	5.6	1,123	3.0	218	0.6	6	--	31,706	85.2
Federal statute offences	30,730	457	1.5	1,016	3.3	2,830	9.2	2,379	7.7	427	1.4	5	--	23,616	76.8
Drug-related offences	12,004	308	2.6	522	4.3	1,527	12.7	897	7.5	156	1.3	1	--	8,593	71.6
Trafficking	3,940	149	3.8	108	2.7	594	15.1	549	13.9	123	3.1	1	--	2,416	61.3
Possession	8,064	159	2.0	414	5.1	933	11.6	348	4.3	33	0.4	-	-	6,177	76.6
Other federal statutes	18,726	149	0.8	494	2.6	1,303	7.0	1,482	7.9	271	1.4	4	--	15,023	80.2

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Adult Criminal Court Survey.
 See Appendix 4 for offence category definitions, Appendix 5 for table notes, and Appendix 6 for methodological notes.

Table 1.9

Cases by amount of fine

Selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99

Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Yukon and the Northwest Territories

Offence group	Total convicted cases	Amount of fine														
		\$100 or less		>\$100 to \$300		>\$300 to \$500		>\$500 to \$1000		>\$1000		Unknown		No fine		
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Total offences	240,653	18,782	7.8	32,411	13.5	22,492	9.3	17,243	7.2	3,762	1.6	1,299	0.5	144,664	60.1	
Criminal Code total	209,923	10,886	5.2	26,068	12.4	20,095	9.6	15,348	7.3	2,211	1.1	1,217	0.6	134,098	63.9	
Crimes against the person	42,654	845	2.0	2,915	6.8	2,016	4.7	888	2.1	149	0.3	377	0.9	35,464	83.1	
Homicide and related	148	1	0.7	1	0.7	-	-	-	1	0.7	1	0.7	-	-	144	97.3
Attempted murder	75	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2.7	-	-	73	97.3	
Robbery	2,634	7	0.3	18	0.7	13	0.5	4	0.2	2	0.1	8	0.3	2,582	98.0	
Kidnapping	99	1	1.0	1	1.0	3	3.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	94	94.9	
Sexual assault	2,128	7	0.3	35	1.6	68	3.2	40	1.9	14	0.7	15	0.7	1,949	91.6	
Sexual abuse	760	-	-	8	1.1	7	0.9	4	0.5	4	0.5	6	0.8	731	96.2	
Major assault	11,641	227	2.0	643	5.5	555	4.8	311	2.7	63	0.5	84	0.7	9,758	83.8	
Abduction	43	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2.3	-	-	-	-	42	97.7	
Common assault	25,126	602	2.4	2,209	8.8	1,370	5.5	527	2.1	63	0.3	264	1.1	20,091	80.0	
Crimes against property	63,580	3,731	5.9	7,270	11.4	2,755	4.3	1,014	1.6	304	0.5	296	0.5	48,210	75.8	
Break and enter	9,880	65	0.7	279	2.8	210	2.1	74	0.7	23	0.2	56	0.6	9,173	92.8	
Arson	356	2	0.6	7	2.0	3	0.8	-	-	3	0.8	-	-	341	95.8	
Fraud	12,704	577	4.5	1,051	8.3	465	3.7	171	1.3	72	0.6	45	0.4	10,323	81.3	
Possess stolen property	8,266	241	2.9	1,073	13.0	600	7.3	331	4.0	115	1.4	41	0.5	5,865	71.0	
Theft	24,957	2,223	8.9	3,692	14.8	1,148	4.6	356	1.4	84	0.3	119	0.5	17,335	69.5	
Property damage/mischief	7,417	623	8.4	1,168	15.7	329	4.4	82	1.1	7	0.1	35	0.5	5,173	69.7	
Other Criminal Code	60,453	6,221	10.3	8,605	14.2	2,567	4.2	844	1.4	267	0.4	361	0.6	41,588	68.8	
Weapons	4,260	362	8.5	676	15.9	284	6.7	97	2.3	28	0.7	19	0.4	2,794	65.6	
Administration of justice	22,711	3,041	13.4	3,058	13.5	520	2.3	135	0.6	10	--	148	0.7	15,799	69.6	
Public order offences	6,584	766	11.6	1,591	24.2	481	7.3	133	2.0	12	0.2	32	0.5	3,569	54.2	
Morals-sexual	3,175	253	8.0	654	20.6	169	5.3	46	1.4	25	0.8	17	0.5	2,011	63.3	
Morals-gaming	287	9	3.1	11	3.8	25	8.7	31	10.8	54	18.8	1	0.3	156	54.4	
Unspecified Criminal Code	23,436	1,790	7.6	2,615	11.2	1,088	4.6	402	1.7	138	0.6	144	0.6	17,259	73.6	
Traffic-related offences	43,236	89	0.2	7,278	16.8	12,757	29.5	12,602	29.1	1,491	3.4	183	0.4	8,836	20.4	
Criminal Code traffic	6,023	78	1.3	564	9.4	847	14.1	910	15.1	203	3.4	57	0.9	3,364	55.9	
Impaired driving	37,213	11	--	6,714	18.0	11,910	32.0	11,692	31.4	1,288	3.5	126	0.3	5,472	14.7	
Federal statute offences	30,730	7,896	25.7	6,343	20.6	2,397	7.8	1,895	6.2	1,551	5.0	82	0.3	10,566	34.4	
Drug-related offences	12,004	1,192	9.9	2,748	22.9	960	8.0	683	5.7	353	2.9	68	0.6	6,000	50.0	
Trafficking	3,940	63	1.6	199	5.1	193	4.9	306	7.8	268	6.8	20	0.5	2,891	73.4	
Possession	8,064	1,129	14.0	2,549	31.6	767	9.5	377	4.7	85	1.1	48	0.6	3,109	38.6	
Other federal statutes	18,726	6,704	35.8	3,595	19.2	1,437	7.7	1,212	6.5	1,198	6.4	14	0.1	4,566	24.4	

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Adult Criminal Court Survey.

See Appendix 4 for offence category definitions, Appendix 5 for table notes, and Appendix 6 for methodological notes.

Table 1.10
Mean and median length of prison,
Selected Provinces and Territories in Canada, 1998/99
 Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Yukon and the Northwest Territories

Offence group	Length of prison for charges and cases with prison											
	Total charges			Total cases			Single charge cases			Multiple charge cases		
	#	mean	median	#	mean	median	#	mean	median	#	mean	median
TOTAL OFFENCES	171,726	192	60	80,206	137	45	29,681	93	30	50,525	163	60
CRIMINAL CODE TOTAL	156,800	185	60	74,523	131	31	27,112	89	30	47,411	156	60
Crimes Against The Person	22,424	371	90	16,159	256	90	4,681	203	60	11,478	278	90
Homicide and Related	136	3,624	2,310	120	3,486	2,190	63	3,744	2,340	57	3,201	2,190
Attempted Murder	65	1,606	1,460	55	1,554	1,080	12	1,264	730	43	1,635	1,095
Robbery	3,518	1,016	730	1,990	746	540	399	485	360	1,591	811	630
Kidnapping	442	972	729	61	457	270	6	167	45	55	488	360
Sexual Assault	1,602	710	360	1,185	527	360	411	403	180	774	593	365
Sexual Abuse	1,091	556	360	445	362	210	103	294	180	342	383	270
Major Assault	6,472	184	90	5,441	156	90	1,392	127	60	4,049	166	90
Abduction	19	606	45	15	722	30	6	193	38	9	1,075	30
Common Assault	9,079	86	60	6,847	70	45	2,289	57	30	4,558	77	60
Crimes Against Property	55,645	227	90	25,057	142	60	7,401	109	45	17,656	156	90
Break and Enter	12,988	389	270	6,017	268	180	1,476	211	120	4,541	287	180
Arson	258	477	360	178	397	285	50	352	360	128	415	270
Fraud	13,476	254	120	4,298	141	70	989	109	45	3,309	150	90
Possess Stolen Property	7,963	167	90	3,750	106	60	1,127	82	45	2,623	116	60
Theft	16,485	140	60	9,064	87	30	3,193	79	30	5,871	92	45
Property Damage/Mischief	4,475	94	45	1,750	51	30	566	41	30	1,184	55	30
Other Criminal Code	62,660	102	30	24,762	58	30	12,358	40	21	12,404	77	30
Weapons	2,715	259	120	1,343	147	60	194	76	30	1,149	159	90
Administration of Justice	28,099	51	30	12,110	32	20	6,702	28	15	5,408	38	30
Public Order Offences	3,955	66	30	1,930	38	30	519	29	15	1,411	41	30
Morals-Sexual	1,129	122	21	844	54	12	499	28	10	345	91	30
Morals-Gaming	9	141	90	2	16	16	1	30	30	1	1	1
Unspecified Criminal Code	26,753	143	60	8,533	87	30	4,443	59	30	4,090	117	30
Traffic	16,071	102	50	8,545	74	30	2,672	57	30	5,873	81	30
Criminal Code Traffic	5,919	122	60	2,992	86	30	1,378	58	30	1,614	110	60
Impaired Driving	10,152	90	40	5,553	67	30	1,294	56	23	4,259	70	30
FEDERAL STATUTE TOTAL	14,926	267	90	5,683	216	90	2,569	144	30	3,114	274	90
Drug Related Offences	7,085	273	90	3,212	216	90	1,435	149	30	1,777	269	90
Trafficking	4,280	396	180	2,209	296	120	759	252	90	1,450	319	128
Possession	2,805	84	30	1,003	38	15	676	33	15	327	47	15
Other Federal Statutes	7,841	262	120	2,471	215	90	1,134	138	30	1,337	281	179

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Adult Criminal Court Survey.
 See Appendix 4 for offence category definitions, Appendix 5 for table notes, and Appendix 6 for methodological notes.

Table 1.11
Mean and median length of probation
Selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99

Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Yukon and the Northwest Territories

Offence group	Length of probation for charges and cases with probation											
	Total charges			Total cases			Single-charge cases			Multiple-charge cases		
	#	mean	median	#	mean	median	#	mean	median	#	mean	median
Total offences	169,230	539	450	100,820	477	365	45,987	429	365	54,833	518	365
Criminal Code total	154,644	537	450	93,711	478	365	42,209	432	365	51,502	516	365
Crimes against the person	35,943	530	365	30,762	507	365	14,510	446	365	16,252	560	540
Homicide and related	26	821	1,095	24	799	913	11	766	730	13	827	1,095
Attempted murder	23	856	1,095	21	894	1,095	7	807	730	14	938	1,095
Robbery	1,627	756	730	1,252	722	730	340	660	730	912	745	730
Kidnapping	267	789	730	74	720	730	10	426	363	64	765	730
Sexual assault	1,752	692	730	1,498	672	730	768	597	540	730	751	730
Sexual abuse	1,093	834	730	612	766	730	166	663	730	446	804	730
Major assault	8,943	549	540	8,073	538	540	3,080	484	365	4,993	571	540
Abduction	40	697	730	35	692	730	18	627	548	17	760	730
Common assault	22,172	474	365	19,173	456	365	10,110	412	365	9,063	506	365
Crimes against property	60,297	564	540	33,543	490	365	14,295	442	365	19,248	526	365
Break and enter	11,094	671	730	6,107	587	540	1,993	517	365	4,114	621	730
Arson	329	745	730	258	707	730	98	670	730	160	729	730
Fraud	16,924	599	540	7,618	526	365	2,806	510	365	4,812	535	450
Possess stolen property	6,295	520	365	3,602	461	365	1,528	427	365	2,074	486	365
Theft	17,776	518	365	11,484	454	365	5,709	415	365	5,775	493	365
Property damage/mischief	7,879	471	365	4,474	401	365	2,161	357	360	2,313	442	365
Other Criminal Code	47,633	540	450	22,197	460	365	11,415	418	365	10,782	504	365
Weapons	3,063	566	540	2,049	517	365	595	432	365	1,454	552	540
Administration of justice	12,719	511	365	5,215	434	365	2,727	406	365	2,488	466	365
Public order offences	3,488	439	365	2,079	380	360	902	333	360	1,177	415	365
Morals-sexual	1,735	492	365	1,423	443	365	976	406	360	447	523	365
Morals-gaming	136	386	360	105	330	360	47	326	180	58	333	360
Unspecified Criminal Code	26,492	568	540	11,326	480	365	6,168	438	365	5,158	530	365
Traffic-related offences	10,771	400	365	7,209	355	360	1,989	328	360	5,220	365	360
Criminal Code traffic	2,818	439	365	1,708	371	360	829	300	270	879	438	365
Impaired driving	7,953	386	360	5,501	350	360	1,160	349	360	4,341	350	360
Federal statute offences	14,586	561	540	7,109	466	365	3,778	398	365	3,331	543	540
Drug-related offences	5,827	505	365	3,410	411	365	1,988	370	360	1,422	468	365
Trafficking	2,763	571	540	1,523	486	365	549	460	365	974	501	365
Possession	3,064	446	365	1,887	350	360	1,439	336	360	448	396	360
Other federal statutes	8,759	598	730	3,699	517	365	1,790	429	365	1,909	598	730

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Adult Criminal Court Survey.
 See Appendix 4 for offence category definitions, Appendix 5 for table notes, and Appendix 6 for methodological notes.

Table 1.12

Mean and median amount of fine

Selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99

Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Yukon and the Northwest Territories

Offence group	Amount of fine for charges and cases with a fine											
	Total charges			Total cases			Single-charge cases			Multiple-charge cases		
	#	mean	median	#	mean	median	#	mean	median	#	mean	median
Total offences	120,910	1,513	300	94,690	573	300	44,062	424	225	50,628	702	400
Criminal Code total	92,908	480	300	74,608	451	350	29,114	371	300	45,494	503	400
Crimes against the person	7,426	417	300	6,813	429	300	3,651	408	300	3,162	453	300
Homicide and related	4	588	525	4	588	525	2	425	425	2	750	750
Attempted murder	2	11,750	11,750	2	11,750	11,750	-	-	-	2	11,750	11,750
Robbery	44	413	300	44	413	300	20	296	300	24	511	350
Kidnapping	12	419	313	5	320	350	1	150	150	4	363	425
Sexual assault	179	633	500	164	653	500	111	689	500	53	577	500
Sexual abuse	35	7,259	350	23	10,839	500	8	581	450	15	16,310	500
Major assault	1,916	441	350	1,799	449	350	780	501	500	1,019	408	300
Abduction	2	550	550	1	600	600	1	600	600	-	-	-
Common assault	5,232	351	300	4,771	359	300	2,728	370	300	2,043	343	300
Crimes against property	18,519	407	200	15,074	337	200	8,434	315	200	6,640	365	200
Break and enter	783	411	300	651	444	300	316	449	400	335	440	300
Arson	15	707	300	15	707	300	3	1,183	300	12	588	300
Fraud	3,380	849	200	2,336	430	200	991	366	200	1,345	478	200
Possess stolen property	2,964	469	300	2,360	498	300	1,268	457	300	1,092	546	300
Theft	8,542	268	200	7,503	276	200	4,629	274	200	2,874	279	200
Property damage/mischief	2,835	235	200	2,209	241	200	1,227	245	200	982	236	200
Other Criminal Code	27,247	427	150	18,504	335	200	10,313	271	200	8,191	416	200
Weapons	1,779	310	200	1,447	332	250	561	307	250	886	348	213
Administration of justice	11,278	165	100	6,764	182	150	3,406	191	150	3,358	172	150
Public order offences	3,711	242	200	2,983	253	200	1,503	249	200	1,480	256	200
Morals-sexual	1,237	307	200	1,147	300	200	895	258	200	252	447	250
Morals-gaming	176	1,911	1,000	130	2,315	1,000	65	1,769	1,000	65	2,861	800
Unspecified Criminal Code	9,066	838	200	6,033	512	200	3,883	321	200	2,150	857	200
Traffic-related offences	39,716	562	500	34,217	569	500	6,716	573	500	27,501	568	500
Criminal Code traffic	3,299	596	500	2,602	621	500	1,577	613	500	1,025	634	500
Impaired driving	36,417	558	500	31,615	565	500	5,139	561	500	26,476	565	500
Federal statute offences	28,002	4,941	200	20,082	1,024	200	14,948	528	150	5,134	2,467	400
Drug-related offences	7,220	460	200	5,936	439	250	4,169	327	200	1,767	705	300
Trafficking	1,305	1,187	700	1,029	1,114	700	425	854	500	604	1,298	750
Possession	5,915	299	200	4,907	298	200	3,744	267	200	1,163	397	250
Other federal statutes	20,782	6,498	200	14,146	1,269	150	10,779	606	100	3,367	3,392	500

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Adult Criminal Court Survey.

See Appendix 4 for offence category definitions, Appendix 5 for table notes, and Appendix 6 for methodological notes.

Table 1.13

Cases by number of appearances

Selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99

Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Yukon and the Northwest Territories

Offence Group	Total cases heard	Number of appearances											
		1 appearance		2 appearances		3 appearances		4 appearances		5 appearances		6 plus appearances	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total offences	394,884	76,106	19.3	61,467	15.6	56,015	14.2	46,598	11.8	36,538	9.3	118,160	29.9
Criminal Code total	350,850	63,459	18.1	54,007	15.4	50,781	14.5	42,621	12.1	33,481	9.5	106,501	30.4
Crimes against the person	82,097	7,209	8.8	9,756	11.9	12,457	15.2	11,405	13.9	9,523	11.6	31,747	38.7
Homicide and related	480	43	9.0	36	7.5	27	5.6	28	5.8	38	7.9	308	64.2
Attempted murder	362	21	5.8	20	5.5	18	5.0	38	10.5	35	9.7	230	63.5
Robbery	4,691	307	6.5	307	6.5	389	8.3	445	9.5	436	9.3	2,807	59.8
Kidnapping	297	28	9.4	23	7.7	31	10.4	33	11.1	28	9.4	154	51.9
Sexual assault	6,140	335	5.5	414	6.7	609	9.9	678	11.0	635	10.3	3,469	56.5
Sexual abuse	1,360	93	6.8	97	7.1	121	8.9	142	10.4	144	10.6	763	56.1
Major assault	21,761	1,545	7.1	2,027	9.3	2,968	13.6	2,978	13.7	2,586	11.9	9,657	44.4
Abduction	147	33	22.4	19	12.9	18	12.2	8	5.4	11	7.5	58	39.5
Common assault	46,859	4,804	10.3	6,813	14.5	8,276	17.7	7,055	15.1	5,610	12.0	14,301	30.5
Crimes against property	101,168	17,376	17.2	17,336	17.1	14,421	14.3	11,481	11.3	9,224	9.1	31,330	31.0
Break and enter	14,268	1,519	10.6	1,764	12.4	1,940	13.6	1,785	12.5	1,545	10.8	5,715	40.1
Arson	619	38	6.1	53	8.6	71	11.5	65	10.5	90	14.5	302	48.8
Fraud	20,835	3,406	16.3	2,807	13.5	2,626	12.6	2,199	10.6	1,968	9.4	7,829	37.6
Possess stolen property	13,610	1,726	12.7	1,822	13.4	1,844	13.5	1,655	12.2	1,410	10.4	5,153	37.9
Theft	40,291	8,685	21.6	8,817	21.9	6,085	15.1	4,371	10.8	3,117	7.7	9,216	22.9
Property damage/mischief	11,545	2,002	17.3	2,073	18.0	1,855	16.1	1,406	12.2	1,094	9.5	3,115	27.0
Other Criminal Code	110,940	25,615	23.1	18,238	16.4	15,537	14.0	12,655	11.4	9,478	8.5	29,417	26.5
Weapons	7,501	948	12.6	958	12.8	969	12.9	915	12.2	774	10.3	2,937	39.2
Administration of justice	40,777	11,048	27.1	6,891	16.9	5,364	13.2	4,162	10.2	3,138	7.7	10,174	25.0
Public order offences	8,977	1,889	21.0	1,653	18.4	1,443	16.1	1,096	12.2	780	8.7	2,116	23.6
Morals-sexual	5,830	1,216	20.9	1,203	20.6	857	14.7	626	10.7	452	7.8	1,476	25.3
Morals-gaming	777	55	7.1	41	5.3	67	8.6	104	13.4	124	16.0	386	49.7
Unspecified Criminal Code	47,078	10,459	22.2	7,492	15.9	6,837	14.5	5,752	12.2	4,210	8.9	12,328	26.2
Traffic-related offences	56,645	13,259	23.4	8,677	15.3	8,366	14.8	7,080	12.5	5,256	9.3	14,007	24.7
Criminal Code traffic	8,488	1,110	13.1	1,086	12.8	1,219	14.4	1,153	13.6	979	11.5	2,941	34.6
Impaired driving	48,157	12,149	25.2	7,591	15.8	7,147	14.8	5,927	12.3	4,277	8.9	11,066	23.0
Federal statute offences	44,034	12,647	28.7	7,460	16.9	5,234	11.9	3,977	9.0	3,057	6.9	11,659	26.5
Drug-related offences	20,166	3,727	18.5	2,781	13.8	2,300	11.4	1,859	9.2	1,648	8.2	7,851	38.9
Trafficking	7,895	478	6.1	579	7.3	686	8.7	729	9.2	752	9.5	4,671	59.2
Possession	12,271	3,249	26.5	2,202	17.9	1,614	13.2	1,130	9.2	896	7.3	3,180	25.9
Other federal statutes	23,868	8,920	37.4	4,679	19.6	2,934	12.3	2,118	8.9	1,409	5.9	3,808	16.0

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Adult Criminal Court Survey.

See Appendix 4 for offence category definitions, Appendix 5 for table notes, and Appendix 6 for methodological notes.

Table 1.14
Case elapsed time from first to last appearance
Selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99

Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Yukon and the Northwest Territories

Offence Group	Total cases heard	Elapsed Time											
		1 appearance		up to 4 weeks		>4 to 16 weeks		>16 to 32 weeks		>32 to 52 weeks		>52 weeks	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total offences	394,884	76,109	19.3	57,036	14.4	92,545	23.4	83,943	21.3	47,434	12.0	37,817	9.6
Criminal Code total	350,850	63,462	18.1	52,506	15.0	82,665	23.6	76,075	21.7	42,840	12.2	33,302	9.5
Crimes against the person	82,097	7,209	8.8	9,444	11.5	21,256	25.9	23,063	28.1	13,080	15.9	8,045	9.8
Homicide and related	480	43	9.0	37	7.7	65	13.5	127	26.5	118	24.6	90	18.8
Attempted murder	362	21	5.8	38	10.5	85	23.5	91	25.1	68	18.8	59	16.3
Robbery	4,691	307	6.5	682	14.5	1,201	25.6	1,068	22.8	793	16.9	640	13.6
Kidnapping	297	28	9.4	32	10.8	76	25.6	70	23.6	60	20.2	31	10.4
Sexual assault	6,140	335	5.5	316	5.1	1,063	17.3	1,672	27.2	1,472	24.0	1,282	20.9
Sexual abuse	1,360	93	6.8	62	4.6	243	17.9	350	25.7	316	23.2	296	21.8
Major assault	21,761	1,545	7.1	2,412	11.1	5,300	24.4	6,177	28.4	3,839	17.6	2,488	11.4
Abduction	147	33	22.4	15	10.2	40	27.2	26	17.7	10	6.8	23	15.6
Common assault	46,859	4,804	10.3	5,850	12.5	13,183	28.1	13,482	28.8	6,404	13.7	3,136	6.7
Crimes against property	101,168	17,378	17.2	16,488	16.3	25,613	25.3	19,567	19.3	11,595	11.5	10,527	10.4
Break and enter	14,268	1,519	10.6	2,654	18.6	3,821	26.8	3,019	21.2	1,818	12.7	1,437	10.1
Arson	619	38	6.1	55	8.9	175	28.3	136	22.0	112	18.1	103	16.6
Fraud	20,835	3,407	16.4	2,521	12.1	4,518	21.7	4,119	19.8	2,953	14.2	3,317	15.9
Possess stolen property	13,610	1,726	12.7	2,300	16.9	3,353	24.6	2,952	21.7	1,791	13.2	1,488	10.9
Theft	40,291	8,686	21.6	7,230	17.9	10,610	26.3	6,858	17.0	3,626	9.0	3,281	8.1
Property damage/mischief	11,545	2,002	17.3	1,728	15.0	3,136	27.2	2,483	21.5	1,295	11.2	901	7.8
Other Criminal Code	110,940	25,615	23.1	20,417	18.4	25,177	22.7	20,816	18.8	10,412	9.4	8,503	7.7
Weapons	7,501	948	12.6	1,014	13.5	1,886	25.1	1,851	24.7	1,021	13.6	781	10.4
Administration of justice	40,777	11,048	27.1	9,940	24.4	7,979	19.6	6,298	15.4	3,096	7.6	2,416	5.9
Public order offences	8,977	1,889	21.0	1,559	17.4	2,201	24.5	1,770	19.7	858	9.6	700	7.8
Morals-sexual	5,830	1,216	20.9	800	13.7	1,615	27.7	1,118	19.2	543	9.3	538	9.2
Morals-gaming	777	55	7.1	20	2.6	157	20.2	217	27.9	180	23.2	148	19.0
Unspecified Criminal Code	47,078	10,459	22.2	7,084	15.0	11,339	24.1	9,562	20.3	4,714	10.0	3,920	8.3
Traffic-related offences	56,645	13,260	23.4	6,157	10.9	10,619	18.7	12,629	22.3	7,753	13.7	6,227	11.0
Criminal Code traffic	8,488	1,110	13.1	899	10.6	1,946	22.9	2,236	26.3	1,326	15.6	971	11.4
Impaired driving	48,157	12,150	25.2	5,258	10.9	8,673	18.0	10,393	21.6	6,427	13.3	5,256	10.9
Federal statute offences	44,034	12,647	28.7	4,530	10.3	9,880	22.4	7,868	17.9	4,594	10.4	4,515	10.3
Drug-related offences	20,166	3,727	18.5	2,438	12.1	4,548	22.6	4,205	20.9	2,603	12.9	2,645	13.1
Trafficking	7,895	478	6.1	636	8.1	1,491	18.9	2,028	25.7	1,542	19.5	1,720	21.8
Possession	12,271	3,249	26.5	1,802	14.7	3,057	24.9	2,177	17.7	1,061	8.6	925	7.5
Other federal statutes	23,868	8,920	37.4	2,092	8.8	5,332	22.3	3,663	15.3	1,991	8.3	1,870	7.8

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Adult Criminal Court Survey.
 See Appendix 4 for offence category definitions, Appendix 5 for table notes, and Appendix 6 for methodological notes.

Table 1.15

**Mean and median elapsed time from first to last appearance
Selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99**

Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Yukon and the Northwest Territories

Offence group	Elapsed time in days for charges and cases heard											
	Total charges			Total cases			Single-charge cases			Multiple-charge cases		
	#	mean	median	#	mean	median	#	mean	median	#	mean	median
Total offences	840,539	171	97	394,884	150	84	209,481	134	70	185,403	168	98
Criminal Code total	745,145	165	93	350,850	152	86	179,266	139	77	171,584	165	96
Crimes against the person	126,461	182	135	82,097	170	126	41,769	161	124	40,328	179	128
Homicide and related	582	243	190	480	233	199	302	220	202	178	254	194
Attempted murder	674	210	151	362	206	147	96	185	122	266	214	155
Robbery	8,852	191	144	4,691	182	127	1,384	180	127	3,307	184	126
Kidnapping	3,130	223	174	297	172	126	93	157	127	204	179	126
Sexual assault	10,178	258	208	6,140	254	202	2,613	254	204	3,527	254	198
Sexual abuse	6,323	287	231	1,360	256	202	526	214	172	834	283	223
Major assault	33,177	186	143	21,761	183	140	8,773	188	149	12,988	180	133
Abduction	247	178	95	147	157	85	93	144	68	54	179	94
Common assault	63,298	154	113	46,859	148	111	27,889	141	109	18,970	159	112
Crimes against property	230,731	179	94	101,168	159	79	50,091	142	70	51,077	176	88
Break and enter	32,115	155	91	14,268	156	90	5,089	155	92	9,179	156	86
Arson	1,094	202	137	619	206	142	248	211	147	371	203	135
Fraud	62,767	234	120	20,835	206	112	8,290	190	112	12,545	217	112
Possess stolen property	45,379	179	105	13,610	165	98	6,988	160	98	6,622	171	98
Theft	64,417	148	69	40,291	137	56	22,946	118	49	17,345	162	70
Property damage/mischief	24,959	152	91	11,545	145	79	6,530	132	70	5,015	162	95
Other Criminal Code	266,711	143	70	110,940	127	56	70,649	116	44	40,291	147	76
Weapons	20,895	191	140	7,501	161	107	2,947	139	86	4,554	175	121
Administration of justice	91,955	108	29	40,777	103	25	26,765	97	21	14,012	114	30
Public order offences	17,001	136	66	8,977	135	63	4,631	120	55	4,346	150	77
Morals-sexual	9,410	171	91	5,830	155	71	4,449	136	66	1,381	214	104
Morals-gaming	2,302	373	331	777	253	192	377	203	169	400	301	257
Unspecified Criminal Code	125,148	156	88	47,078	136	70	31,480	126	56	15,598	157	98
Traffic-related offences	121,242	170	98	56,645	159	98	16,757	169	119	39,888	155	88
Criminal Code traffic	17,392	186	120	8,488	179	126	4,839	167	115	3,649	196	142
Impaired driving	103,850	167	93	48,157	155	91	11,918	170	120	36,239	151	81
Federal statute offences	95,394	212	120	44,034	141	63	30,215	110	40	13,819	210	144
Drug-related offences	40,056	212	140	20,166	169	98	13,296	139	64	6,870	228	167
Trafficking	19,588	271	196	7,895	242	183	3,252	223	174	4,643	256	192
Possession	20,468	155	83	12,271	122	54	10,044	112	42	2,227	169	112
Other federal statutes	55,338	211	105	23,868	118	42	16,919	87	14	6,949	193	118

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Adult Criminal Court Survey.

See Appendix 4 for offence category definitions, Appendix 5 for table notes, and Appendix 6 for methodological notes.

Part 2 – Jurisdictional Overviews

Table 2.1
Charges by disposition
Selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99

Jurisdiction	Total charges heard	Disposition									
		Guilty		Superior Court		Other		Stay/withdrawn		Acquitted	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total	840,539	392,393	46.7	16,915	2.0	31,123	3.7	372,862	44.4	27,246	3.2
Newfoundland	19,320	12,314	63.7	434	2.2	624	3.2	5,937	30.7	11	0.1
Prince Edward Island	2,598	1,688	65.0	46	1.8	11	0.4	826	31.8	27	1.0
Nova Scotia	30,511	12,499	41.0	968	3.2	1,207	4.0	14,929	48.9	908	3.0
Quebec	201,905	117,544	58.2	214	0.1	14,402	7.1	48,037	23.8	21,708	10.8
Ontario	378,965	151,784	40.1	13,010	3.4	5,959	1.6	206,281	54.4	1,931	0.5
Saskatchewan	59,950	30,834	51.4	1,316	2.2	2,498	4.2	24,697	41.2	605	1.0
Alberta	137,559	60,555	44.0	810	0.6	6,043	4.4	68,197	49.6	1,954	1.4
Yukon	3,643	1,474	40.5	31	0.9	335	9.2	1,774	48.7	29	0.8
Northwest Territories	6,088	3,701	60.8	86	1.4	44	0.7	2,184	35.9	73	1.2

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Adult Criminal Court Survey.
 See Appendix 4 for offence category definitions, Appendix 5 for table notes, and Appendix 6 for methodological notes.

Table 2.2
Cases by disposition
Selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99

Jurisdiction	Total charges heard	Disposition									
		Guilty		Superior Court		Other		Stay/withdrawn		Acquitted	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total	394,884	240,653	60.9	5,380	1.4	13,367	3.4	125,699	31.8	9,785	2.5
Newfoundland	7,597	5,520	72.7	131	1.7	214	2.8	1,728	22.7	4	0.1
Prince Edward Island	1,550	1,140	73.5	29	1.9	8	0.5	359	23.2	14	0.9
Nova Scotia	16,711	8,981	53.7	313	1.9	921	5.5	5,942	35.6	554	3.3
Quebec	74,276	56,213	75.7	55	0.1	4,021	5.4	7,111	9.6	6,876	9.3
Ontario	200,809	111,119	55.3	3,981	2.0	4,119	2.1	80,610	40.1	980	0.5
Saskatchewan	27,166	17,068	62.8	457	1.7	861	3.2	8,482	31.2	298	1.1
Alberta	61,825	37,194	60.2	353	0.6	3,048	4.9	20,237	32.7	993	1.6
Yukon	1,611	934	58.0	17	1.1	146	9.1	497	30.9	17	1.1
Northwest Territories	3,339	2,484	74.4	44	1.3	29	0.9	733	22.0	49	1.5

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Adult Criminal Court Survey.
 See Appendix 4 for offence category definitions, Appendix 5 for table notes, and Appendix 6 for methodological notes.

Table 2.3
Cases by type of sentence
Selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99

Jurisdiction	Total cases heard	Most serious sentence											
		Prison		Probation		Fine		Restitution		Other		Unknown	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total	240,653	84,011	34.9	100,897	41.9	95,989	39.9	11,631	4.8	100,959	42.0	1,762	0.7
Newfoundland	5,520	1,647	29.8	2,614	47.4	2,286	41.4	168	3.0	2,305	41.8	1	--
Prince Edward Island	1,140	703	61.7	475	41.7	514	45.1	106	9.3	149	13.1	1	0.1
Nova Scotia	8,981	2,077	23.1	3,020	33.6	4,618	51.4	536	6.0	4,129	46.0	67	0.7
Quebec	56,213	15,707	27.9	27,486	48.9	25,936	46.1	1,348	2.4	14,703	26.2	70	0.1
Ontario	111,119	46,519	41.9	52,029	46.8	33,612	30.2	6,017	5.4	56,096	50.5	825	0.7
Saskatchewan	17,068	4,227	24.8	5,041	29.5	8,115	47.5	1,104	6.5	9,405	55.1	645	3.8
Alberta	37,194	11,664	31.4	8,774	23.6	19,917	53.5	2,088	5.6	13,203	35.5	4	--
Yukon	934	438	46.9	459	49.1	269	28.8	104	11.1	227	24.3	-	-
Northwest Territories	2,484	1,029	41.4	999	40.2	722	29.1	160	6.4	742	29.9	149	6.0

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Adult Criminal Court Survey.
 See Appendix 4 for offence category definitions, Appendix 5 for table notes, and Appendix 6 for methodological notes.

Table 2.4
Mean and median length of prison,
Selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99

Jurisdiction	Length of Prison for Charges and Cases with Prison											
	Total charges			Total cases			Single-charge cases			Multiple-charge cases		
	#	mean	median	#	mean	median	#	mean	median	#	mean	median
Total	171,726	192	60	80,206	137	45	29,681	93	30	50,525	163	60
Newfoundland	6,028	107	60	1,495	101	30	345	71	30	1,150	110	40
Prince Edward Island	1,178	447	30	703	458	15	359	539	15	344	374	20
Nova Scotia	4,289	141	30	2,077	128	30	782	85	30	1,295	154	45
Quebec	51,128	305	180	15,706	237	90	4,150	134	60	11,556	274	150
Ontario	69,521	124	30	43,087	91	30	18,664	69	30	24,423	107	30
Saskatchewan	11,489	154	90	4,227	148	60	1,248	123	50	2,979	158	90
Alberta	25,402	191	60	11,444	160	45	3,574	117	30	7,870	179	60
Yukon	875	74	30	438	74	30	147	72	30	291	75	30
Northwest Territories	1,816	128	60	1,029	147	90	412	143	83	617	150	90

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Adult Criminal Court Survey.
 See Appendix 4 for offence category definitions, Appendix 5 for table notes, and Appendix 6 for methodological notes.

Table 2.5
Mean and median length of probation
Selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99

Jurisdiction	Length of probation for charges and cases with probation											
	Total charges			Total cases			Single-charge cases			Multiple-charge cases		
	#	mean	median	#	mean	median	#	mean	median	#	mean	median
Total	169,230	539	450	100,820	477	365	45,987	429	365	54,833	518	365
Newfoundland	5,314	601	540	2,611	498	365	1,361	440	365	1,250	562	540
Prince Edward Island	773	485	365	475	437	365	276	409	365	199	476	365
Nova Scotia	4,340	456	365	3,020	420	365	1,593	381	365	1,427	463	365
Quebec	63,095	664	730	27,418	587	730	9,263	489	365	18,155	636	730
Ontario	70,133	486	365	52,029	459	365	26,843	436	365	25,186	483	365
Saskatchewan	9,398	360	360	5,041	331	360	2,184	311	270	2,857	346	360
Alberta	14,224	401	365	8,774	369	365	3,663	343	360	5,111	388	365
Yukon	682	363	360	459	345	360	212	342	360	247	347	360
Northwest Territories	1,271	322	365	993	310	365	592	286	270	401	346	365

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Adult Criminal Court Survey.
 See Appendix 4 for offence category definitions, Appendix 5 for table notes, and Appendix 6 for methodological notes.

Table 2.6
Mean and median amount of fine
Selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99

Jurisdiction	Amount of Fine for Charges and Cases with a Fine											
	Total charges			Total cases			Single-charge cases			Multiple-charge cases		
	#	mean	median	#	mean	median	#	mean	median	#	mean	median
Total	120,910	1,513	300	94,690	573	300	44,062	424	225	50,628	702	400
Newfoundland	3,055	490	300	2,286	529	300	1,344	471	300	942	611	400
Prince Edward Island	575	648	700	514	646	700	332	621	600	182	690	700
Nova Scotia	5,221	557	400	4,618	541	400	2,125	411	249	2,493	652	500
Quebec	36,365	3,827	250	25,933	679	250	11,211	422	100	14,722	874	300
Ontario	37,100	607	350	32,318	597	400	17,360	468	300	14,958	746	500
Saskatchewan	11,198	393	300	8,115	422	350	3,345	349	300	4,770	473	400
Alberta	26,194	435	300	19,917	467	300	7,848	342	250	12,069	549	500
Yukon	319	674	600	267	626	600	87	551	500	180	662	600
Northwest Territories	883	526	400	722	560	400	410	507	350	312	629	500

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Adult Criminal Court Survey.
 See Appendix 4 for offence category definitions, Appendix 5 for table notes, and Appendix 6 for methodological notes.

Table 2.7
Total cases, median elapsed time by number of appearances
Selected provinces and territories in Canada, 1998/99

Jurisdiction	Elapsed time in days													
	Total		Single appearance		Cases with 2 appearances		Cases with 3 appearances		Cases with 4 appearances		Cases with 5 appearances		6 plus appearances	
	#	median	#	median	#	median	#	median	#	median	#	median	#	median
Total	394,884	84	76,106	-	61,467	28	56,015	68	46,598	109	36,538	141	118,160	242
Newfoundland	7,597	49	2,484	-	1,568	43	1,289	92	906	129	531	158	819	234
Prince Edward Island	1,550	-	1,034	-	207	21	139	49	70	80	43	154	57	288
Nova Scotia	16,711	64	4,450	-	4,090	44	3,044	119	2,039	182	1,211	235	1,877	341
Quebec	74,276	98	14,197	-	10,494	32	12,205	81	10,108	126	7,191	168	20,081	321
Ontario	200,809	88	31,481	-	26,436	21	23,677	49	21,798	86	19,374	119	78,043	219
Saskatchewan	27,166	57	7,063	-	5,135	28	4,238	70	3,273	119	2,342	161	5,115	268
Alberta	61,825	84	13,917	-	12,436	40	10,695	100	7,893	137	5,519	173	11,365	258
Yukon	1,611	77	244	-	228	14	220	56	214	78	155	124	550	202
Northwest Territories	3,339	16	1,236	-	873	28	508	56	297	85	172	93	253	160

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Adult Criminal Court Survey.
 See Appendix 4 for offence category definitions, Appendix 5 for table notes, and Appendix 6 for methodological notes.

Appendices

Appendix 1:

ACCS jurisdictional coverage (Case Characteristics component)

The Adult Criminal Court Survey covers provincial/territorial criminal courts in the following jurisdictions. The ACCS also collects Superior Court data from Alberta.

Newfoundland

Data are available from 1994.

Limitations: The first 3 quarters of fiscal 1994/95 include the St. Johns and Clarenville court locations only.

Prince Edward Island

Data are available from 1992.

Nova Scotia

Data are available from 1992.

Limitations: Halifax Municipal Court data are not included prior to 1995/96.

New Brunswick

Not Available

Quebec

Data are available from 1992.

Limitations: ACCS shelf tables are available from 1994/95, and represent approximately 80% of national provincial criminal court coverage. (See footnotes for further coverage information). These tables do not include data for cases heard in Superior Criminal Courts. Also excluded are data for Quebec's municipal courts. It is estimated that approximately 20% of federal statute charges in Quebec are heard in municipal court.

Ontario

Data are available from 1994.

Limitations: Ontario data for 1996/97 undercounts charges by approximately 5%.

Manitoba

Data are not available.

Saskatchewan

Data are available from 1993.

Alberta

Data are available from 1994.

British Columbia

Data are not available.

Yukon

Data are available from 1992.

Northwest Territories

Data are available from 1994.

Limitations: Data are not available for 1996/97.

Appendix 2:

Case Characteristics standard record layout

Data Label	Name	Size	Type	Position
JURIS*	Jurisdiction	2	N	1-2
LEVEL	Level of Court	1	N	3
COURT	Court Location	14	AN	4-17
APPEAR	Appearance Type and Result	2	N	18-19
DCOURT*	Date of Court Appearance	8	N	20-27
LREP	Legal Representation	1	AN	28
DELECT	Accused or Defence Election	1	AN	29
INFO*	Information Number	20	AN	30-49
CSEQ*	Charge Sequence Number	3	AN	50-52
DOFF	Date of Offence	8	AN	53-60
DINIT	Date of Initiation	8	AN	61-68
STAT	Type of Statute	3	AN	69-71
SECT	Statute Section Code	6	AN	72-77
SUBS	Statute Subsection	3	AN	78-80
PARA	Statute Paragraph	4	AN	81-84
NATURE	Nature of Offence	1	AN	85
PROCED	Crown Proceeding/Crown Election	1	AN	86
PLEA	Type of Plea	1	AN	87
DISP	Type of Disposition	2	AN	88-89
WARRANT	Bench/Arrest Warrant Issued	1	AN	90
SENT	Type of Sentence	6	AN	91-96
CONDTYPE	Type of Conditional Sentence of Imprisonment Conditions	8	N	97-104
CONSCUR	Consecutive/Concurrent Indicator	1	N	105
LCONDIT	Length of Conditional Sentence of Imprisonment	3	N	106-108
OSDETAIL	Other Sentence Detail	8	N	109-116
PROBTYPE	Type of Probation	8	N	117-124
TIMESERV	Time Served	1	N	125
LPRISON	Length of Prison	4	AN	126-129
LPROB	Length of Probation	4	AN	130-133
AFINE	Amount of Fine	8	AN	134-141
AREST	Amount of Restitution	8	AN	142-149
OTHER	Other Sentence Type	1	N	150
IDENT*	Local Accused/Defendant Identifier	20	AN	151-170
SDX	Accused/Defendant Identifier	11	AN	171-181
SEX	Sex of Accused	1	AN	182
DBIRTH	Date of Birth of Accused	8	AN	183-190
[Filler]		60	Blank	191-250

Appendix 3:

List of standard ACCS shelf tables

Section 1: General characteristics:

Table 1.1	Appearances, charges and cases
Table 1.2	Cases involving males by age
Table 1.3	Cases involving females by age
Table 1.4	Cases by sex of accused
Table 1.5	Cases by age of accused
Table 1.6	Mean and median age of accused by sex
Table 1.7	Charges by disposition
Table 1.8	Cases by disposition
Table 1.9	Single charge cases by disposition
Table 1.10	Multiple charge cases by disposition
Table 1.11	Single charge cases by type of procedure
Table 1.12	Multiple charge cases by type of procedure

Section 2: Sentencing characteristics:

Table 2.1	Charges by most serious sentence
Table 2.2	Cases by most serious sentence
Table 2.3	Single charge cases by most serious sentence
Table 2.4	Multiple charge cases by most serious sentence
Table 2.5	Charges by type of sentence
Table 2.6	Cases by type of sentence
Table 2.7	Single charge cases by type of sentence
Table 2.8	Multiple charge cases by type of sentence
Table 2.9	Charges by length of prison
Table 2.10	Cases by length of prison
Table 2.11	Single charge cases by length of prison
Table 2.12	Multiple charge cases by length of prison
Table 2.13	Charges by length of probation
Table 2.14	Cases by length of probation
Table 2.15	Single charge cases by length of probation
Table 2.16	Multiple charge cases by length of probation
Table 2.17	Charges by amount of fine
Table 2.18	Cases by amount of fine
Table 2.19	Single charge cases by amount of fine
Table 2.20	Multiple charge cases by amount of fine
Table 2.21	Mean and median length of prison
Table 2.22	Mean and median length of probation
Table 2.23	Mean and median amount of fine

Section 3: Case processing characteristics

Table 3.1	Charges by number of appearances
Table 3.2	Cases by number of appearances
Table 3.3	Single charge cases by number of appearances
Table 3.4	Multiple charge cases by number of appearances
Table 3.5	Mean and median number of appearances
Table 3.6	Mean and median number of charges per case, by quarter
Table 3.7	Mean and median number of appearances per case, by quarter
Table 3.8	Mean and median number of appearances per charge, by quarter
Table 3.9	Case elapsed time from first to last appearance
Table 3.10	Case elapsed time from offence date to first appearance
Table 3.11	Case elapsed time from date of initiation to first appearance
Table 3.12	Charges, median elapsed time by number of appearances
Table 3.13	Total cases, median elapsed time by number of appearances
Table 3.14	Single charge cases, median elapsed time by number of appearances
Table 3.15	Multiple charge cases, median elapsed time by number of appearances
Table 3.16	Mean and median elapsed time from first to last appearance
Table 3.17	Median elapsed from first to last appearance, trial versus non-trial
Table 3.18	Median elapsed time from first to last appearance, by number of charges

Appendix 4

Offence Category Definitions

Crimes against the person

Homicide and related	first degree murder, second degree murder, manslaughter, infanticide.
Attempted murder	attempted murder
Robbery	robbery with firearms, with other offensive weapons, other robbery
Kidnapping	kidnapping, forcible confinement, hostage taking
Sexual assault	aggravated sexual assault, sexual assault with a weapon, causing bodily harm, threats to a third party
Sexual abuse	sexual interference, invitation to sexual touching, sexual exploitation, incest, bestiality
Major assault	aggravated assault (level 3), assault with a weapon or causing bodily harm (level 2), discharging firearm with intent, unlawfully causing bodily harm, assault against a peace/police officer
Abduction	abduction of a person under 16, abduction of a person under 14, abduction in contravention of a custody order, abduction where no custody order
Common assault	assault level 1

Crimes against property

Break and enter	business premises, residence, other break and enter
Arson	arson
Fraud	cheques, credit cards, counterfeiting, other fraud
Possess stolen property	have stolen goods
Theft	theft of motor vehicles, theft over, theft under, theft from motor vehicles, shoplifting, theft unspecified, other theft
Property damage/mischief	mischief to property less than/more than \$1,000, mischief with data

Other Criminal Code

Weapons	explosives, pointing a firearm, use of a firearm in committing offence, careless use/storage/handling of a firearm, possession of prohibited weapons, restricted weapons, other offensive weapons
Administration of justice	bail violations, fail to appear or comply with a summons/appearance notice/ promise to appear, breach of recognizance, unlawfully at large, escape custody, breach of probation
Public order offences	causing a disturbance, obstruct a peace officer, trespass at night
Morals sexual	keeping a bawdy house, procuring, other prostitution related offences, indecent acts, public morals
Morals gaming	keeping betting house, gaming house, other gaming and betting offences
Other Criminal Code	all other criminal code offences

Traffic-related offences

Criminal Code traffic	dangerous operation of motor vehicles, vessels, aircraft, dangerous operation causing death/bodily harm, fail to stop at scene of an accident, operation while disqualified
Impaired driving	impaired driving, impaired driving causing death/bodily harm, impaired >.08, fail to provide sample

Drug-related offences

Trafficking	trafficking/importing drugs, heroin, cocaine, cannabis, restricted drugs, other drugs
Possession	possession of drugs, heroin, cocaine, cannabis, restricted drugs, other drugs

Other federal statutes

Income Tax Act, Fisheries Act, Unemployment Insurance Act, Bankruptcy Act, Customs Act, Immigration Act, other

Appendix 5

Table notes:

National tables

Table 1.1

- Multiple charge cases include all charges in the case, regardless of whether or not there was a guilty disposition.

Table 1.2

- Sex is determined on the basis of the accused's name in Quebec, producing a relatively higher rate of sex unknown.

Table 1.3

- Age is the age of the accused at the time of the offence.
- Age unknown includes accused under the age of 18 at the time of offence.

Table 1.4 and 1.5

- "Guilty" includes conditional and absolute discharges, guilty pleas, and found guilty. Stay/withdraw includes stay of proceedings and withdrawn/dismitted/discharged at preliminary. "Other" dispositions include acquitted on account of mental disorder, and waived in/out of province.
- The Superior Court disposition category includes charges and cases that reported a change in court level as the last disposition within the reference period (i.e., a committal for trial in Superior Court, or election from Superior Court to provincial court). Where possible the completion of these trials will be reported in a subsequent reference period. In 1998/99, Alberta is the only jurisdiction reporting both re-elections back to provincial court and committals to Superior Court. All other jurisdictions report committals.

Table 1.6

- "Other" most serious sentences include absolute and conditional discharge, suspended sentence, payment of legal costs, and suspension of drivers license.

Table 1.7

- The "no prison" category provides counts of convicted cases and charges where this sanction was not imposed.
- Charge and case data are for convicted cases and charges only.
- The "unknown" column for length of prison includes indeterminate and intermittent prison sentences.

Table 1.8

- The "no probation" category provides counts of convicted cases and charges where this sanction was not imposed.
- Charge and case data are for convicted cases and charges only.

Table 1.9

- The "no fine" category provides counts of convicted cases and charges where this sanction was not imposed.
- Charge and case data are for convicted cases and charges only.

Table 1.10, 1.11, and 1.12

- Data do not include charges resulting in conviction where sentencing information was unavailable.
- Multiple charge cases include all charges in the case, regardless of whether or not there was a guilty disposition.
- Charge and case data are for convicted cases and charges only.
- Mean and median calculations exclude unknown sentences.

Table 1.14

- Elapsed time is from first to last court appearance.

Table 1.15

- Elapsed time is from first to last court appearance.
- Mean and median calculations exclude unknown sentences.

Jurisdictional tables**Table 2.1, and 2.2**

- “Guilty” includes conditional and absolute discharges, guilty pleas, and found guilty. Stay/withdraw includes stay of proceedings and withdrawn/dismitted/discharged at preliminary. “Other” dispositions include acquitted on account of mental disorder, and waived in/out of province.
- The Superior Court disposition category includes charges and cases that reported a change in court level as the last disposition within the reference period (i.e., a committal for trial in Superior Court, or election from Superior Court to provincial court). Where possible the completion of these trials will be reported in a subsequent reference period. In 1998/99, Alberta is the only jurisdiction reporting both re-elections back to provincial court and committals to Superior Court. All other jurisdictions report committals.
- Excludes municipal court appearances in Quebec.

Table 2.3

- Cases can have more than one sentence. Therefore, sanctions are mutually exclusive and will not add to 100%.
- Excludes municipal court appearances in Quebec.
- Includes Superior Court appearances in Alberta.

Table 2.4, 2.5 and 2.6

- Data do not include charges resulting in conviction where sentencing information was unavailable.
- Multiple charge cases include all charges in the case, regardless of whether or not there was a guilty disposition.
- Charge and case data are for convicted cases and charges only.
- Mean and median calculations exclude unknown sentences.
- Excludes municipal court appearances in Quebec.
- Includes Superior Court appearances in Alberta.

Table 2.7

- Elapsed time is from first to last court appearance.
- Excludes municipal court appearances in Quebec.
- Includes Superior Court appearances in Alberta.

Appendix 6

Methodological notes

Stages of data flow and sources of error

The Adult Criminal Court Survey data contained in this report have undergone numerous types of processing since the original data collection took place in the courtroom. Each process may introduce error, or a difference between the original court event and the final tabulated data. The following is a description of the four basic stages of data flow for the ACCS and the types of errors which may be introduced at each stage.

Stage 1. collection of the original data

The initial stage involves the recording of court proceedings in some form of docket. The types of errors which may be introduced include:

1. Response and measurement error: Provinces and territories or court locations within the same province or territory may differ in terms of court operations, recording procedures, and the interpretation of statutes or legal concepts.
2. Non-response error: Data pertaining to some ACCS variables may not be collected if not required for operational or administrative purposes.
3. Data coding errors: There may be clerical errors in the recording of court proceedings.

Stage 2. Provincial/territorial processing of the original data

Data from court dockets are loaded into the provincial and territorial automated operational systems. Data are then loaded into automated information system files within the jurisdiction. The types of errors which may be introduced at this stage include:

1. Coverage error: Data for certain court locations may not be captured for inclusion in the automated files.
2. Non-response errors: Data pertaining to some ACCS variables may not be captured for inclusion in the automated operational systems, though they exist in the court dockets.
3. Data coding and capture errors: There may be clerical errors or delays in the coding of data on the docket or in the transformation of data from the docket into a machine-readable format.
4. Edit and imputation errors: The edit and imputation process used by the provincial/territorial systems may introduce errors.
5. System errors: Processing of operational system files or information system files may introduce errors.

Stage 3. Transcription of information into ACCS format

Interface software selects the applicable records from automated court operational systems or management information systems in the provinces/territories. Records are then transcribed into the ACCS format and sent to the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics (CCJS) for processing. The types of errors that may be introduced include:

1. System errors: ACCS interface software specifications may be incorrect or misinterpreted or the interface software itself may contain errors.
2. Coverage errors: The ACCS interface software may extract inappropriate records or miss records that should be covered by the survey.

Stage 4. ACCS processing of the transcribed data

Data received from the provinces and territories are edited and, if necessary, data from the Case Characteristics component are imputed before being added to the ACCS master file. Automated standard tables are produced from the contents of these files. The types of errors which may be introduced at this stage include:

1. System errors: ACCS processing specifications may be incorrect or misinterpreted. The processing programs themselves may also contain errors.
2. Edit and imputation errors: Although the Edit and Imputation system is a tool for detecting and correcting errors, it may also be a source of error. The edit specifications may contain errors due to changes in court procedures, or legislation. The edit and imputation rules may be mis-interpreted or they may be too restrictive or not restrictive enough.

ACCS tools for assuring data quality

A number of tools have been developed for the ACCS to minimize or correct the errors identified above.

A. Interface software development methodology

System error may be introduced during the extraction and transcription of provincial or territorial data into ACCS format. The ACCS has attempted to minimize this source of error by implementing a standard interface development methodology which requires a complete testing of the software by both the ACCS and the province/territory prior to implementation. Interface development must proceed through the following stages:

1. The feasibility of developing interface software is investigated. A test environment is established in the automated operational or case management system of the province or territory to assist in the feasibility investigation and in the development of interface software.
2. Provincial/territorial data elements are mapped to the ACCS data requirements and documented in a field interpretation and limitations(FID) template.
3. The interface software is run in the test environment using test data and the results are verified by both the ACCS and the province/territory. Differences between actual and expected results are identified and the required corrections are made.
4. The interface software is run in the production environment and the results are verified by both the province/territory and ACCS. Errors are identified and the required corrections are made.
5. An evaluation exercise is undertaken to assess the extent to which the data extracted by the interface match the data contained in the original provincial/territorial court files and automated operational or case management system files. The review facilitates the investigation of response errors or discrepancies between the published data and the original recording of the court event.

B. Testing of ACCS data processing systems

The ACCS data processing systems may introduce system errors and edit and imputation errors into the data. To minimize the impact of these errors, all systems developed at Statistics Canada, including the ACCS data processing system, are subject to logic testing by the developer, user acceptance testing performed by CCJS and/or the Methodology Division of Statistics Canada, and volume testing performed by the system developer. It should be noted, however, that these tests only approximate the infinite number of situations encountered in the real world. Periodic revision will also be required to reflect changes in court procedures and law. For these reasons, the ACCS data processing system requires continuous review and modification.

C. ACCS edit and imputation system

The main tool developed for the ACCS to identify and correct errors and to guide interface software development is an edit and imputation system for the Case Characteristics component. Erroneous data processed by the edit system may result in one of the following outcomes:

Data are Rejected: The types of errors that cause caseload data to be rejected include: missing or incorrect information in key fields (Province /Territory, Court Level, Court Identifier, Unit of Count, and Start or End Date) and duplicate records. There are three types of errors that cause case characteristics data to be rejected: missing or incorrect information in the key record identification fields (Province/Territory, Court Location, Information Number, Accused Identifier, Charge Sequence Number, and Court Appearance Date); charges not yet disposed; and duplicate appearance records. In most cases, records containing reject errors require respondent input to determine the appropriate action to be taken.